

December General PTA Meeting Minutes

Mountain PTA



December 3, 2018 | 12:13pm | Meeting called to order by Mhairi McKay-Smith, Mountain PTA President

In Attendance

Amanda Padilla, Karen Morris, Elizabeth Daly, Todd Baker, Scott Johnson, Anna Zobay, Stephanie Luscher, Sigrid Wurthmann, Jennifer Kieltyka, Jennifer Guy, Mhairi McKay-Smith, Kristy Ortega, Chris Jordan, Ramey Sallaz

Introductions

Mhairi McKay-Smith made introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order and that only PTA members can vote.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were distributed from the November General Meeting. Chris Jordan made a motion to approve November minutes which was seconded by Karen Morris. Approved by show of hands.

Treasurer's Report

Chris Jordan reported that the effective bank balance is \$54,741. Thus far we have reimbursed teachers for \$2,656.55 in Mad Money for classroom supplies. Grant balances are \$207 remaining for educational grants and \$9,134 remaining for general grants. Mountain PTA would like to thank Los Alamos Children's Dentistry for a donation of \$100 from their candy buyback program.

President's Report

Mhairi McKay-Smith reported that November was a quieter month, though PTA was working hard behind the scenes. The yearbook cover contest winners were Annie Xie and Marlee Katko. Mountain Science Fair is December 6 and judges are still needed.

On December 12 there will be a school safety meeting at Chamisa at 6:30pm. Jennifer Guy elaborated that the meeting is to discuss perimeter fencing and that all school sites have had a security assessment done. She recommended having the LAPS District Safety Coordinator Susan Fellows come to a PTA meeting to discuss security. It was also suggested that the PTA host a safety meeting in the spring to have a conversation with parents about what we want to see at Mountain.

Membership Report

Ramey Sallaz reported that Mountain PTA has 93 members.

Principal's Report

Principal Jennifer Kieltyka presented her report. The architects designing the upcoming construction at Mountain will present the plans to the school board, then the staff, and finally at a parent meeting. Mrs. Kieltyka also reported that the School Resource Officer Adele McKenzie raised concerns about the need for crossing guards at the intersection of Urban and North Road. After discussion it was suggested that the principal could form a safety committee as well as discuss the issue at a safety meeting in the spring.

New Business

Grant Requests

Sixth Grade Book Club - Mrs. Cooke

Mhairi McKay-Smith made a motion to approve a \$172 educational grant to buy 25 books for Mrs. Cooke's sixth grade book club with an additional \$50 coming from the clubs line item. Motion was seconded by Ramey Sallaz and approved by show of hands.

First Grade ALTO (Active Learning Through Opera)

Mhairi McKay-Smith made a motion to increase the line item for first grade opera program from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The motion was seconded by Todd Baker and approved by a show of hands.

Bylaws Updating for Approval

New Mexico PTA requires Mountain PTA to update our bylaws every three years. Once updated they must be posted for ten days then approved by the membership. Updated bylaws were posted on the PTA bulletin board and sent out to all members in the PTA newsletter ten days prior to December general meeting.

Karen Morris made a motion to approve updated bylaws. Elizabeth Daly seconded the motion and it was approved by show of hands. Approved bylaws will be submitted to NMPTA for their final approval.

Standing Rules Updating for Approval

Standing rules supplement and help interpret the bylaws. Mhairi McKay-Smith and Ramey Sallaz are updating the standing rules and will submit them to the membership at a spring meeting. Jennifer Guy recommended adding to the standing rules information about summer spending and start-up costs for new school year.

Smart Boards - Update from Jennifer Guy, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Accountability

Mrs. Guy gave a general history of the smart boards purchased for Mountain by the PTA and LAPS. In May 2018 Mountain PTA membership approved \$12,000 to purchase three smart boards. In the summer Mrs. Guy presented a proposal to the district leadership team to fund nine more smart boards, which they approved. A total of twelve smart boards were purchased. The project had three parts: purchasing smart boards, purchasing white boards, and installation.

Smart boards will be installed by Troxell the week of January 7, 2019 at a cost of \$17,000. In addition to the electrical and physical work, installation includes calibration, follow up, and professional development for teachers.

Mountain PTA will be invoiced for the installation costs at \$12,000 with LAPS paying the remaining \$5,000. The smart board project got bigger in scope because more funding was available from the district after Mountain PTA agreed to purchase three smart boards. Mrs. Guy stated that it would have taken 7 years to get this many smart boards in Mountain classrooms without the support of Mountain PTA.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Kristy Ortega reported that our bylaws require us to form a nominating committee at a winter meeting consisting of at least three members. Karen Morris, Todd Baker, and Kristy Ortega volunteered to be on the nominating committee.

Halloween Carnival Review

Carnival chairperson Todd Baker presented copies of his written report. It was a detailed account of the carnival and outlined strengths, opportunities, weaknesses, and threats for subsequent carnivals.

Announcements: *No PTA General Meeting in January, 2019*

Next Meeting: *Monday, February 4th, 2019 | 12:10pm in the Mountain School Library*

Meeting was adjourned at 1:23pm